

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BANGKO 18590 041056Z

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 CIAE-00

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R 041010Z SEP 75
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0783
INFO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

CONFIDENTIAL BANGKOK 18590

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: MILI, PFOR, SN, TH, US
SUBJ: M-16 RIFLES FOR THAILAND

REF: BANGKOK 16979

1. ON SEPTEMBER 3, EMBASSY OFFICER MET WITH COLT'S INTERNATIONAL SALES' MANAGER, ROB ROY, WHO IS IN BANGKOK TO HELP CLOSE THE 30,000 M-16 A-1 SALE WITH RTG. ROY INDICATED THAT THAI LST, ANGTHONG, DID NOT MAKE SECOND TRIP TO SINGAPORE AS SPECULATED IN REFERENCE MESSAGE. ALSO, ACCORDING TO COLT'S BEST ESTIMATE, CHARTERED INDUSTRY OF SINGAPORE AND GOS NO LONGER HAVE A SUFFICIENT INVENTORY OF M-16S TO ACCOMMODATE LARGE THIRD COUNTRY SALE AT PRESENT TIME.

2. ROY ALSO REPORTED THAT RTG MINISTRY OF INTERIOR WAS NEGOTIATING WITH COLT FOR 7,770 M-16S FOR BORDER PATROL POLICE. IF TRUE, THIS COULD BE SIGN THAT RTG IS RECOGNIZING THE NEED AND TAKING POSITIVE STEPS TO PROVIDE THE BORDER PATROL POLICE, WHO CARRY OUT CI FUNCTIONS, WITH MODERN WEAPONS.

WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

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